

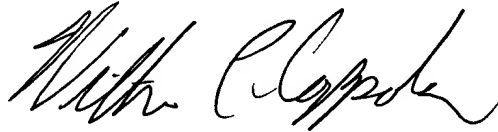
20-27 can be found generally throughout the instant Specification, and particularly on pages 13-23, and Claims 1-19 as filed. Thus, the instant preliminary amendment introduced no new matter into the instant Application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the Claims by the instant Amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.”**

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks in the file history of the instant Application. The Claims as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action on the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William C. Coppola', written in a cursive style.

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus [or derivative] comprising a heterologous nucleic acid sequence operatively associated with a promoter sequence, wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes [encoding] a product of therapeutic interest for the treatment of diseases of the nervous system.

2. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus [or derivative] comprising a heterologous nucleic acid sequence operatively associated with a promoter sequence, wherein said heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes [encoding] a product of therapeutic interest, and is capable of infecting and directing the expression of [the] said therapeutic product in [the] cells of the nervous system of vertebrates[, preferably human cells].

3. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 1 [either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that] wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence comprises [is] an antisense sequence or a gene.

4. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim [3] 1, wherein [, characterized in that] the heterologous nucleic acid sequence is a gene that encodes a compound selected from the group consisting of a hormone, a lymphokine, a growth factor, an enzyme for synthesizing a neurotransmitter, a trophic factor, a protein involved in the metabolism of an amino acid, a protein involved in the metabolism of a lipid, and a protein involved in the metabolism of a carbohydrate [encoding product of therapeutic interest chosen from hormones, lymphokines, growth factors, enzymes for synthesizing neurotransmitters,

trophic factors, proteins involved in the metabolism of amino acids, lipids or carbohydrates].

5. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 4, wherein trophic factor is selected from the group consisting of a neutrophin, a member of the CNTF family, a member of the IGF family, and a member of the FGF family [characterized in that the trophic factors are chosen from members of the neutrophin family such as NGH, BDNF, NT3, NT4/5, NT6, members of the CNTF family such as CNFT, axokine, LIF, IL6, cardiotrophin, GDNF, members of the IGF family such as IGF-1 and IGF-2, members of the FGF family such as FGF 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and TGF- β].

6. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 4, wherein the heterologous product is a gene that encodes [characterized in that the gene encoding a product of therapeutic interest is the gene encoding] β -glucuronidase.

7. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus according to claim 1, wherein said recombinant [one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that it is a] baculovirus expresses [expressing] an envelope protein that is foreign to a baculovirus [other than that of baculoviruses].

8. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 7, wherein [characterized in that] the envelope protein comprises [is] the glycoprotein of the rabies virus or the glycoprotein of VSV (Vesicular Stomatitis Virus).

10. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 1, wherein [9, characterized in that] the promoter sequence is selected from the group consisting of the Neuron Specific Enolase (NSE) promoter sequence, the Neurofilament (NF) promoter sequence, the Tyrosine Hydroxylase (TH) promoter sequence, the Dopamine Transporter (DAT) promoter sequence, the Choline Acetyl Transferase (ChA) promoter sequence, the Dopamine β -Hydroxylase (DBH) promoter sequence, the Tryptophan Hydroxylase (TPH) promoter sequence, the Glutamic Acid Dehydrogenase (GAD) promoter sequence, and the Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein (GFAP) promoter sequence [chosen from the promoters of the NSE (Neuron Specific Enolase), NF (Neurofilament), TH (Tyrosine Hydroxylase), DAT (Dopamine Transporter), ChAT (Choline Acetyl Transferase), DBH (Dopamine β -Hydroxylase), TPH (Tryptophan Hydroxylase), GAD (Glutamic Acid Dehydrogenase) and GFAP (Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein) genes].

11. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus according to claim 1, further comprising a signal sequence [one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that it also comprises signal sequences which make it possible] to induce secretion of specific compartmentalization of the therapeutic product.

17. (Amended) A population [Population] of cells of the nervous system [(e.g., brain, spinal cord, neural, glial or ependymal cells [lacuna]), which is infected with the recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [one of more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 11].

18. (Amended) An implant [Implant] comprising human cells infected with a recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [with one or more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 11].

19. (Amended) A pharmaceutical [Pharmaceutical] composition comprising a recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [one or more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 11], in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.